



Steven F. Molo  
MoloLamken LLP  
430 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10022  
T: 212.607.8170  
F: 212.607.8161  
smolo@mololamken.com  
www.mololamken.com

January 24, 2020

BY CM/ECF AND EMAIL

Hon. Analisa Torres  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York  
Daniel Patrick Moynihan U.S. Courthouse  
500 Pearl Street  
New York, NY 10007-1312  
Torres\_NYSDChambers@nysd.uscourts.gov

Re: *Contrarian Capital Management, LLC v. Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela*,  
No. 19 Civ. 11018 (rel. Nos. 19 Civ. 3123 & 18 Civ. 11940):  
Initial Pretrial Conference

Dear Judge Torres:

We represent Plaintiffs in this matter. Pursuant to Rule II(B) of the Court's individual practices, we write to respectfully request that the Court adjourn the pretrial conference currently scheduled for February 3, 2020. *See* Dkt. 11.

An adjournment is necessary because the defendant in this action, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (the "Republic"), has not yet been served with process despite Plaintiffs' diligent attempts. Pursuant to the parties' contracts governing this action, Plaintiffs have attempted service on the Republic at its New York Consulate on December 4, 5, 9, 23, and 27, 2019 and January 9, 2020. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1608(a)(1) (permitting service on foreign governments via "special arrangement"). However, those service attempts have been unsuccessful because the Republic's New York Consulate is currently closed. Given that closure, and given that service via international convention or mail on the Republic is unavailable, *see id.* §§ 1608(a)(2)-(3), Plaintiffs have requested that the Clerk of this Court arrange for service on the Republic via diplomatic channels under 28 U.S.C. § 1608(a)(4). The Clerk dispatched Plaintiffs' service package to the U.S. Department of State for service on the Republic on January 14, 2020. *See* Dkt. 24 (certificate of mailing). We will advise the Court promptly when service is complete.

Given that service efforts on the Republic are ongoing, we therefore respectfully request that the February 3 pretrial conference be adjourned until Plaintiffs notify the Court that service

Hon. Analisa Torres

January 24, 2020

has been completed. This is the Plaintiffs' first request for an adjournment of the pretrial conference.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steven F. Molo  
Steven F. Molo

CC: All counsel of record via CM/ECF